

Mont. 17-41-29

Tom Nichols' House (Site)
Poolesville Vicinity
Private

c. 1882

The two story, frame house with two rooms down and two up was representative of the type built by the more prosperous black landowners in the late 19th century. Also on the site was a "brush shed" or "brush barn" made of upright poles interlaced with pine boughs and covered with a roof of similar materials. It was used to shelter animals on farms and was once rather common on small farms in southern Maryland and this county.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Tom Nichols House (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Sugarland Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Sugarland (Poolesville)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**Abandoned
Land

NAME

William R. and Elaine Murry

Telephone #: 972-8940

STREET & NUMBER

14840 Sugarland Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Poolesville

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse, Land records

Liber #: 3927

Folio #: 773

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:17-41-29

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☒ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story, frame house stood on the north side of Sugarland Road, and its front length was facing the road. The facade was two bays in length, a door and a window downstairs, balanced by two windows above. In plan, there were two rooms down and two up, with a one story, one room shed attached to the back length. This was used as the kitchen, as was common. There was a brick stove flue. The walls inside the house were covered with "wainscotting". This was the local term for narrow tongue and groove siding that became popular in the late 19th century.

A door led from the shed kitchen to the yard and out-buildings. These were a chicken house, meat house, stable for horses and a hog pen. The stable for the animals was often a "shed", which Lee describes as a structure made of upright poles like a lean-to, with its roof and sides covered with straw. In Charles County, black informants have described similar structures used as shelter for animals and called them "brush barns", but this term was not used in Sugarland, instead they were simply called "sheds".

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M: 17-41-29

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

C. 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The deed, EBP 27/205, shows that Thomas and his wife Henrietta Nichols purchased this tract from A. Pleasant Webb in 1882. The U.S. Census for 1870 lists Thomas Nichols (age, 23, therefore born in 1847) with his brother Frank (age, 18), and his sister Carrie (age, 20). His occupation was farm laborer. In the 1880 census, he was listed (age, 35 -- the age discrepancy is not unusual --) with his wife Henrietta (age, 26) and with children:

Mary, (age, 11)
George, (age, 8)
Anna, (age, 5)

daughter?, (age, 4)
Abbey, (age, 3)

His occupation was "works on farm", and Henrietta's was "keeps house". His birthplace was Virginia, and Henrietta's was Maryland.

The two story frame house that Nichols built on this site was representative of the type built by the more prosperous Black land-owners in the community. The brush shed, a type also found in Charles County, is another significant feature, since it has thoroughly vanished from the historical landscape, and it was once common around Black settlements in southern Maryland and this county.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

U.S. Census, 1870, 1880 for Montgomery County
 Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse
 Oral interviews, Tilghman Lee

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

SRT

DATE

7/78

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

301-926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson, Md.

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~
~~(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
 Box 87, Stronghold
 Dickerson, Md. 20753
 (301) 926-4510

SITE: p. 809 Tom Nichols Property

LOCATION:

OWNER'S NAME: Charles E. Jr. and Eleanor Smith

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

PROPERTY MAP: C551

ACREAGE: 2

L/F: 4409/162

HISTORY:

1) GRANTOR: Charles Carroll and Madeline Alice Thomas

GRANTEE: Charles E. Jr. and Eleanor Smith

DATE: July 9, 1973

ACREAGE: 2

Rec. July 16, 1973

MISC.:

2) GRANTOR: Ida Johnson

GRANTEE: Charles and Madeline Thomas

DATE: 1962

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

L/F 3067/609

3) GRANTOR: Thomas E. Nichols, et al.

GRANTEE: Ida Johnson

DATE:

ACREAGE: 5 ac, 3 rods and 8 sq.

MISC.:

L/F 2964/205

perches

HISTORY CONTINUED

M:17-41-29

SITE: P. 809

GRANTOR: Webbs and Sillers

GRANTEE: Thomas Nichols

DATE: Nov. 13, 1880

ACREAGE: 5 ac, 3 roods, 8 perches

MISC.: EBP 27/208

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

Tom NICHOLS PROPERTY

M:17-41-29 ^W 45

HISTORY CONTINUED

SITE: p. 815

current owner: W R and E W Murry

tract 3.77 ac tax plat C551

GRANTOR: Walters and Ruth A Johnson

L/F 3927/773

GRANTEE: W^m R and Elaine W. Murry

DATE: Nov. 5, 1969

ACREAGE:

MISC.: recorded Dec. 19, 1969

GRANTOR: J. Moran McConihe

GRANTEE: Walter S and Ruth A. Johnson

} L/F 3707/31

DATE: Aug. 28, 1967

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

GRANTOR: W^m R. and Elaine L. Murry

GRANTEE: Walter S. and Ruth A. Johnson

} L/F 3799/668

DATE: Oct. 10, 1968

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

Grantee: W^m R and Elaine Murry

Grantor: Ida Johnson

L/F 3018/673

GRANTOR: Thomas E. Nichols

GRANTEE: Ida Johnson

DATE:

ACREAGE: 5 ac. 3 rds. 8 sq. perches

MISC.:

M:17-41-29

HISTORY CONTINUED

SITE: p. 815

GRANTOR: All heirs at law and next of kin of the
late Thomas and Henrietta J. Nicholas and John
GRANTEE: Ida Johnson
and Henrietta Johnson

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

EB P 27/208

GRANTOR: A. Pleasant Webb et al

GRANTEE: Thomas Nichols and Henrietta Nichols

DATE: ~~Dec~~ Nov. 30, 1880 ACREAGE: 5 ac. 3 rods and 8 sq.
perches.
Dec. 26, 1882
MISC.:

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

1870

M:17-41-29

NAME: Thomas Nicholls

AGE/D.O.B.: 23

WIFE: Brother Frank 18 farm laborer
sister Carrie 20 domestic servant

CHILDREN:

OCCUPATION: farm laborer

1880

Thomas Nichols p. 52

AGE/D.O.B. 35

WIFE: Henrietta - 26 keep house

CHILDREN: Mary 11
Geo. 8
Anna - 5
(daughter?) - 4 } at home

OCCUPATION: A b key 3

work on farm

he is from Va
she is from Md.

NAME: Mary Lynch.

NOT known if Suganawa
though listed with other black
families M: 17-41-29

CENSUS: 1900 Mont. Co.

PAGE: 7 A

AGE/D.O.B.: Apr. 1890

OCCUPATION:

WIFE:

CHILDREN:

Henry W. - Sept. 1893
Alice E. - July 1888
Robert F. - Dec 1889
Reason L. - Feb. 1893

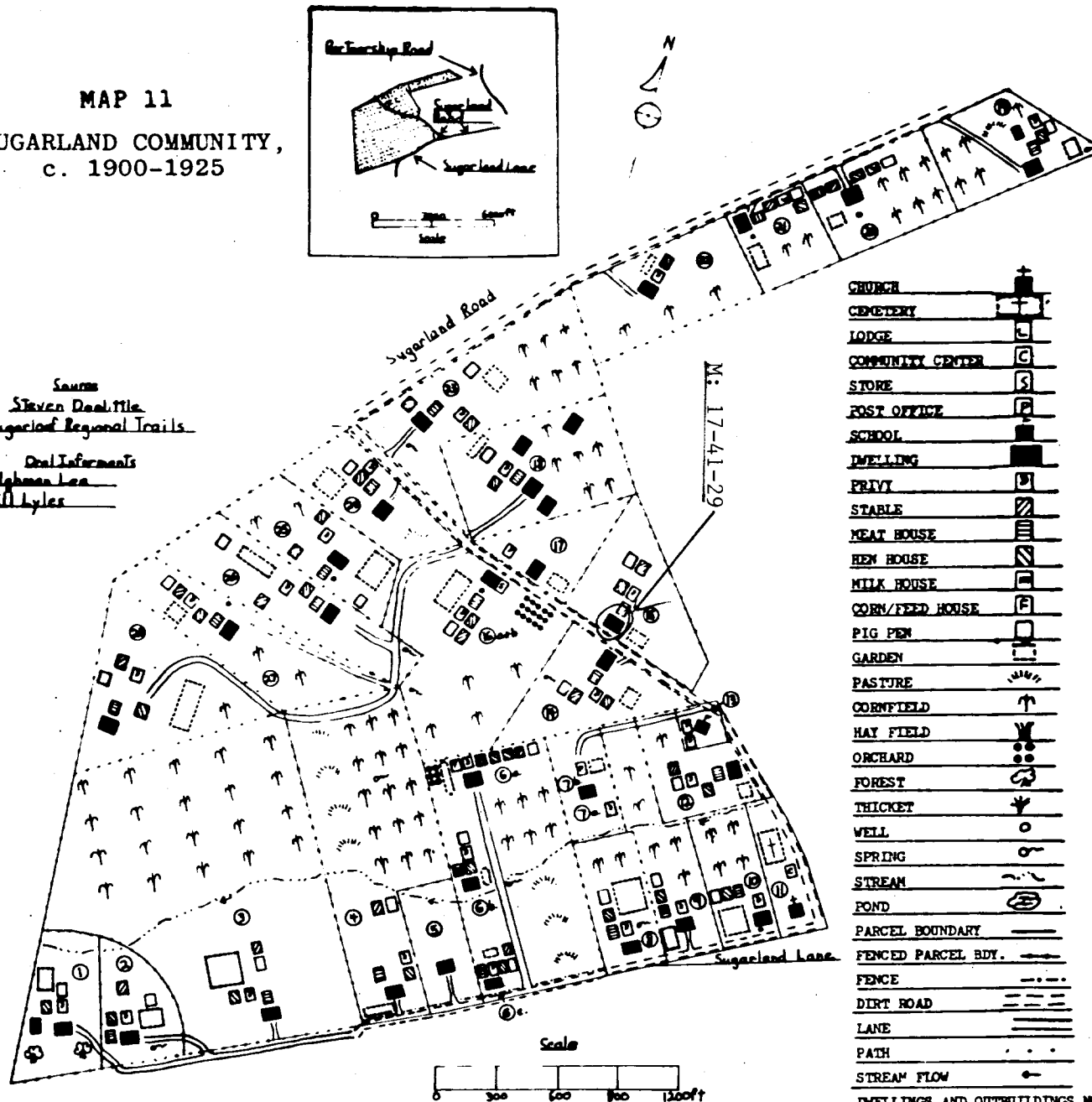
Richard J. - Mar. 1896
Rosetta B. - Apr. 1899

PLACE OF BIRTH:

All members - Maryland

MAP 11
SUGARLAND COMMUNITY,
c. 1900-1925

Sources
Steven Deal, M.E.
Sugarland Regional Trails
Oral Informants
Tilghman Lee
Bill Lyles



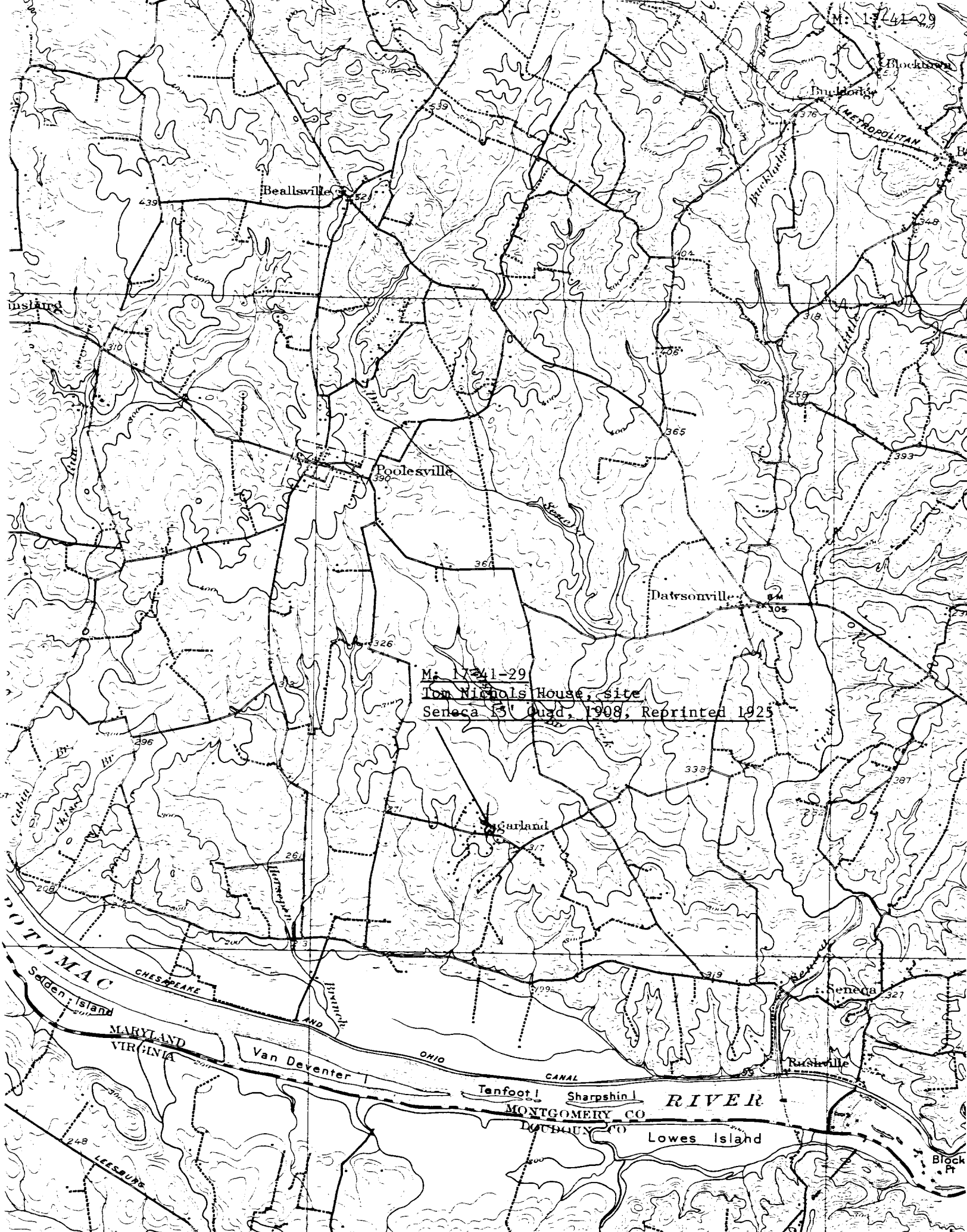
Key

CHURCH	+
CEMETERY	+
LODGE	+
COMMUNITY CENTER	+
STORE	+
POST OFFICE	+
SCHOOL	+
DWELLING	+
PRIVY	+
STABLE	+
MEAT HOUSE	+
HEN HOUSE	+
MILK HOUSE	+
CORN/FEED HOUSE	+
PIG PEN	+
GARDEN	+
PASTURE	+
CORNFIELD	+
HAY FIELD	+
ORCHARD	+
FOREST	+
THICKET	+
WELL	+
SPRING	+
STREAM	+
POND	+
PARCEL BOUNDARY	+
FENCED PARCEL BDT.	+
FENCE	+
DIRT ROAD	+
LANE	+
PATH	+
STREAM FLOW	+

1. JAMES BECKWITH HSTD.	3.00 AC.
2. TILGHMAN BECKWITH HSTD.	4.00 AC.
3. JOHN ADAMS HSTD.	18.00 AC.
4. LEWIS GARNETT HSTD.	14.00 AC.
5. PETER JACKSON HSTD.	3.00 AC.
6a. PATRICK HERRON HSTD.	17.00 AC.
b. LUKE HERRON HSTD.	
c. ROBERT HERRON HSTD.	
7a. NATHAN JOHNSON HSTD.	3.00 AC.
b. POST OFFICE	
8. JOHN HIGGINS HSTD.	4.00 AC.
9. JOE CURTIS HSTD.	6.00 AC.
10. EASIL DORSEY HSTD.	4.00 AC.
11. ST. PAUL'S M.E. CHURCH	1.00 AC.
12. HORACE JACKSON HSTD.	2.00 AC.
13. SUGARLAND SCHOOL	1.00 AC.
14. SAM BEANDER HSTD.	6.00 AC.
15. THOMAS NICHOLS HSTD.	10.00 AC.
16a. BENJAMIN SPARROUGH HSTD.	14.75 AC.
b. SUGARLAND STORE	
17. CHARLES JACKSON HSTD.	4.50 AC.
18. LUKE LYNCH & FAMILY HSTD.	10.00 AC.
19. WILLIAM TAYLOR HSTD.	3.00 AC.
20. LLOYD COATES HSTD.	4.00 AC.
21. SAMUEL JOHNSON HSTD.	4.00 AC.
22. JOHN DIGGS HSTD.	4.00 AC.
23. JOHN BRANISON HSTD.	11.00 AC.
24. RAF BRANISON HSTD.	6.00 AC.
25. PHILLIP JOHNSON HSTD.	6.00 AC.
26. ISAAC BELL HSTD.	10.00 AC.
27. SAMUEL LEE HSTD.	5.00 AC.
28. LEVI HALL HSTD.	10.00 AC.

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY

M: 1741-29



M: 1741-29
Tom Nichols House, site
Seneca 13' Quad, 1908, Reprinted 1925

STERLING QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

M: 17-41-29

5562 III NE
(GERMANTOWN)

291 25' 2 310 000 FEET (VA.) 292

293

POOLESVILLE 3 MI 77°22'30"
39°07'30"

DAWSONVILLE 1.5 MI
WASHINGTON, D.C. 25 MI

530 000 FEET
(VA.)

M: 17-41-29

Tom-Nichols House, site

(Thomas Nichols Homestead)

Sterling Quad, 1968

